



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
A COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 13TH AVIATION REGIMENT
1ST AVIATION BRIGADE
FORT RUCKER AL 36362-5115

ATZQ-BDE-EA

7 April 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR All A Company Personnel

SUBJECT: Command Philosophy – Policy Number 1

1. The Purpose of this memorandum is to outline my command philosophy. It is important that all Soldiers in the company understand my beliefs regarding our profession of arms. This philosophy will provide insight to things I believe are vital to the success of the company. It will also outline some basic guidelines that I feel are important to every Soldier in the United States Army.

2. First and foremost I want everyone to understand that while I am deeply honored to be the commander of A Company, it is not **my** company, it is **our** company. Each and every one of you is a member of this team and a valued part of the Warrior family. Without you, we have no mission.

3. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that our team is successful. The most important and sometimes most difficult part of maintaining that success is learning how to deal with each other. Every person in this formation is different; they have different backgrounds, beliefs and values, but are all members of the same team. Remember to always attack the problem, not each other.

a. In order for this Company to be successful, we must foster an environment where every member is treated with dignity and respect; and feels like a valued member of the team. The best way to accomplish this is by adhering to the golden rule: **treat others like you wish to be treated.** I expect everyone to be honest and respectful with me as well as each other.

b. I do not believe in hidden agendas, **say what you mean and mean what you say.** Avoid talking about someone behind their back. Do not spread gossip; it will tear an organization apart. Most importantly, never talk down to anyone, especially your subordinates.

c. I will not tolerate disrespect within the ranks of this company, and I expect the same from all of you.

4. Honesty and Integrity are two core values that I regard very highly. Coincidentally they also go hand in hand. Just as every Soldier is entitled to effective leadership, every leader should be entitled to effective, honest, trustworthy Soldiers.

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a. Being dishonest is a conscious choice, and one that is not aligned with honorable service in the Army. I do not expect all of you to be perfect, but I do expect you all to be honest at all times. When I ask you a question, give me your honest answer. Tell me what you know or think you know based off of the facts at hand. Do not tell me what you think I want to hear.

b. Integrity, in my opinion, is the most important of all of the army values. It is the foundation upon which all of the other values are built upon. In combat, all Soldiers must trust their lives to their brothers and sisters in arms. Therefore every Soldier must have the integrity to be worthy of that trust. Remember, integrity is the one thing in life that cannot be taken away from you, it must be given.

5. Every single person in this organization is a leader. From the first day of training, we place Soldiers in student leadership positions to begin grooming them for higher levels of responsibility. I am a firm believer of leading by example. I will never ask anyone to do something that I will not or cannot do myself. It is imperative that we do the right thing all of the time, even when no one is looking. It is what is expected of us as Soldiers and representatives of our great nation.

6. Safety is everyone's responsibility. Always conduct a risk analysis before performing any task to ensure you are being safe (**think before you act**). This applies both on and off duty. If you witness your buddy performing an unsafe act, take action. Do not stand idly by only to witness an accident happen.

7. I am humbled to be your commander and I look forward to serving with all of you.


JACOB E. PARRISH
CPT, AV
Commanding